

## **CLAIMS**

1. A method of routing calls in a telecommunications network routing node, the method comprising the steps of:  
  
receiving a call set-up request comprising an indication of at least one  
5 node through which the set-up request has passed;  
  
retrieving previously stored call routing information;  
  
routing the call set-up request responsive to a comparison between the indication and the previously stored call routing information.
- 10 2. A method according to claim 1 in which the routing node is a Private Branch Exchange.
3. A method according to claim 1 in which the indication of previously passed nodes comprises a bit sequence, each bit of which uniquely identifies a network node.
- 15 4. A method according to claim 1 in which the call set-up request further comprises an indication that the call set-up request relates to a non-primary routed call.
5. A method according to claim 4 in which the indication that the call set-up request relates to a non-primary routed call precedes the indication of at least one node
- 20 6. A method according to claim 1 in which the call set-up request further comprises an indication of a destination node distinct from the routing node.
7. A method according to claim 1 in which the call set-up request comprises an indication of at least two nodes through which the set-up request has passed.
- 25 8. A method according to claim 1 in which the call set-up request comprises an indication of all nodes through which the set-up request has passed.
9. A method according to claim 1 in which the routing node itself comprises a plurality of component nodes.

10. A method according to claim 1 in which the step of receiving employs a first communication protocol and in which the step of routing employs a second communication protocol distinct from the first communications protocol.

5 11. A method of routing calls in a telecommunications network comprising a plurality of routing nodes. The nodes being hierarchically structured in at least two levels of hierarchy in which routing of calls employs the method of claim 1 at least at two distinct levels of the hierarchy.

12. A call routing node, for a telecommunications network, comprising:

10 a port arranged to receive a call set-up request comprising a trail log, from another call routing node;

a store for storing call routing information;

a router arranged to route the call set-up request responsive to a comparison between the trail log and the stored call routing information.

15 13. A telecommunications network comprising at least one call routing node according to claim 12.

14. A program for a computer in a machine readable form for routing calls in a telecommunications network comprising a plurality of nodes, the program comprising portions arranged to perform the steps of:

receiving a call set-up request comprising a trail log;

20 retrieving previously stored call routing information;

routing the call set-up request responsive to a comparison between the trail log and the previously stored call routing information.

15. A telecommunications signal comprising a call set-up request comprising a trail log for use in routing the call set-up request.

25 16. A telecommunications signal according to claim 15 in which the call set-up request further comprises an indication that the call set-up request relates to a non-primary routed call.